

Message Text

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ORIGIN AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EB-07 ISO-00 HEW-06 COME-00 /034 R

66610

DRAFTED BY: FAS/ITP/IOD:WFDOERING:TCS

APPROVED BY: C E BARTCH

APHIS/USDA:PCHALOUX (DRAFT)

FAS/USDA:GHWHITE

FAS/USDA:NPETTIPAW

AGRIC/ERBEVIS

ARA/APU:RCFELDER

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R 302007Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 232631

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, AR, MX

SUBJ: SANITARY RESTRICTIONS ON CASEIN SHIPMENTS TO MEXICO

REF: BUENOS AIRES 5917

1. SUMMARY. US HAS FOUND, AS CORRECTLY REPORTED REFTTEL, THAT FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE VIRUS CAN SURVIVE PROCESSING OF MILK INTO CASEIN. THIS CONCLUSION IS AMONG REASONS FOR TIGHTENING BY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF SANITARY CONTROLS ON IMPORTS OF CASEIN AND CERTAIN OTHER DAIRY PRODUCTS FROM FOOT AND MOUTH COUNTRIES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 25, 1975. DETAILS POUCHED. END SUMMARY.

2. US REP AT US-MEXICAN JOINT COMMISSION ON FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE CORRECTLY STATED CONCLUSION OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE VETERINARY AUTHORITIES, BASED ON RECENT STUDIES AND REVIEW OF RESEARCH, THAT MODERN METHODS OF PASTEURIZATION OF MILK CANNOT BE RELIED UPON TO PROVIDE ACCEPTABLE DEGREE OF PROTECTION

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AGAINST POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF FOOT AND MOUTH VIRUS. PROCESS OF

ACIDIFICATION IN CASEIN PRODUCTION LIKEWISE NOT CONSIDERED A COMPLETELY RELIABLE SAFEGUARD.

3. AFTER LENGTHY INVESTIGATION AND CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF ALL EVIDENCE, ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE OF USDA HAS AMENDED ITS REGULATION GOVERNING IMPORTS OF CERTAIN DAIRY PRODUCTS FROM COUNTRIES INFECTED WITH FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE AND RINDERPEST TO PROVIDE STRICT CONTROL OF TRANSPORTATION AND UTILIZATION. CHEESE, BUTTER, BUTTER OIL, AND LIQUID MILK WHICH HAS BEEN HEAT TREATED AND IS IN HERMETICALLY CONCEALED CONTAINERS ARE EXEMPTED. DRIED MILKS INCLUDING CASEIN AND MOST OTHER DAIRY PRODUCTS ARE SUBJECT TO NEW CONTROLS.

4. REGULATION DOES NOT PROHIBIT IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES OF ARGENTINE CASEIN. EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 25, IT REQUIRES THAT TRANSPORT WITHIN THE US BE UNDER GOVERNMENT SEAL AND THAT END USERS MEET CERTAIN UTILIZATION REQUIREMENTS AND BE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION.

5. TEXT OF REGULATION AND USDA PRESS RELEASE BEING AIR-POUCHED BY USDA TO ALL AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES AND OFFICERS, INCLUDING RUDBECK IN MONTEVIDEO WHO ALSO COVERS ARGENTINA. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DAIRY PRODUCTS, SANITATION REGULATIONS, ANIMAL DISEASES, IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE232631
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FAS/ITP/IOD:WFDOERING:TCS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750339-0859
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975094/aaaaadaf.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AGR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BUENOS AIRES 5917
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 MAR 2003 by maustmc>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SANITARY RESTRICTIONS ON CASEIN SHIPMENTS TO MEXICO
TAGS: EPAP, AR, MX
To: BUENOS AIRES
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006